be expected in a book designed to help facilitate the use of such publications. He raises some very worthy, albeit not startlingly new, questions regarding standards for acquisition. Can traditional standards of book selection be applied in these cases? He asks: "How important, after all, is the style in which an opinion is expressed? What if a viewpoint be printed on poor paper, with bad typography, many errors in spelling, inelegant language, and much profanity?" (P. xxii, xxiii). But bad style is not so much the concern as are seemingly libelous statements, intentional deceit, faulty reasoning, and a desire to appeal to man's hatreds. What place does this material have, in libraries, and under what circumstances? Should libraries collect only "quality" publications, or should they also strive to represent all gamuts of thought even if it means lowering their standards of selection?

Any library desirous of building any sort of collection of fringe publications will undoubtedly need to carefully scrutinize its selection policies. As to locating these materials, selecting the "better" ones, and maintaining a balance within this collection, this bibliographic guide should be of the utmost help. *Alternative Press Index* (Radical Research Center, Carleton College, Northfield, MN 55057) should help the librarian make at least some of these publications more readily usable. The reviewers note if a given title appears in this index. The question of whether one feels a need for such a collection or has the available resources is, of course, an individual one. But even for those libraries which do not wish to actively subscribe to these polemic publications, the guide can be a useful tool in handling gift subscriptions, patrons' requests for new subscriptions, and in general reference service. It also makes fascinating browsing.

The book appears to have been carefully researched and even though, according to Muller, ". . . few [reviewers]—if any—were conservatives," the reviews and the selection of material reviewed seemed objective. Unfortunately, the book is already somewhat dated since the most recent issues examined are from 1969 and in many cases from a year or two earlier. Due to the transient nature of many of these publications, the time factor is of special importance.—*Willis M. Hubbard, Eureka College, Eureka, Illinois.*

Lowell, Mildred Hawksworth. *The Management of Libraries and Information Centers, v.4: Role Playing and Other Management Cases.* Metuchen, N.J., Scarecrow Press, 1971. 420p.

Volume four of Dr. Lowell's series is intended to provide a simulated library experience through the use of role playing case studies. She defines role playing as the "flexible acting out of various types of interpersonal problems in a permissive group atmosphere; it involves action, doing and practice." It is part of the decision-making process. The case study technique is not new and is the special orientation of volumes one through three, but role playing, while it has been used in library education, has not been afforded equal time in the literature. Lowell has contributed a great deal merely by defining role playing, inventorying the many uses of role playing and its nonlibrary origins, comparing a role case study and a standard case study, and finally providing an extensive bibliography.

Another objective of the volume is to provide role playing cases. While cases in the previous volumes could perhaps be adapted to role playing, they are not specifically designed as such and hence are not as effectively contrived. As a result the cases in volume four are heavily personnel-oriented, although some planning, organization, and controlling cases are included as well. The latter are designed to supplement the earlier volumes.

To the reviewer who has approached the case study technique with some scepticism as a teaching device, and who has used the earlier volumes as a text base for management courses with only fair success, this fourth volume appears as a valuable addition to the set and a "star" in its own right. The work is carefully researched, well documented, and organized, and does not belabor the obvious. The cases and roles are well designed, interesting to read, and exciting to consider. The cases appear smoother technically than the earlier ones which is perhaps the result of being tailored for role playing. The preponderance

of personnel cases may be considered a drawback, but assuming that role playing involves people, it is perhaps inevitable.

The volume should prove valuable to library educators and administrators who seek to use the case study-role playing technique for training their students or staff. It is a valuable work in its own right and not dependent on the set for its strength. On the other hand, it complements the other three volumes very effectively and libraries should consider the entire set as a homogeneous unit worth purchasing.—*Ann F. Painter, Graduate School of Library Science, Drexel University, Philadelphia.*

Veaner, Allen B. *The Evaluation of Micropublications: A Handbook for Librarians.* Chicago: American Library Association, 1971. 59p. $3.25 (LTP Publication no.17).

If the question were posed as to who is the most knowledgeable librarian in this country to write a book about micropublications, the answer would have to be Allen B. Veaner. Based on his experience in administering a photoduplication service and in acquiring microforms at both Harvard and Stanford University libraries, his many previous contributions to library literature regarding library microforms, his activity in ALA and in numerous other professional organizations, and particularly his able chairmanship of the ALA, RTSD Micropublishing Subcommittee for the past six years, Veaner is eminently qualified to author this handbook. Veaner's gift for attention to pertinent detail is abundantly evident in this work which will serve as a bible for many years to come for anyone seeking information about micropublications. In fifty-nine pages this deceptively small booklet is crammed with a wealth of information for those responsible for acquiring, reviewing, evaluating, or producing micropublications. Veaner demonstrates the rare ability to present the many fine details that go into the production and evaluation of micropublications and yet to balance this with the perspective necessary to assess these in the proper light from the library administrator's point of view.

The handbook is divided into two major sections: (1) Micropublishing and Mi-cropublications, and (2) Evaluation Procedures. The first twenty-two pages are devoted to a discussion of the micropublishing industry, microformats, film size and image legibility, film generations and polarity, the registration and preservation of master films, locating original material, production of hard copies, types of film, film stock, film coatings, archival permanence, and use of resolution charts. In the latter half of this booklet a complete step-by-step procedure for the evaluation of micropublications is presented, including how to review the publisher's prospectus, how to seek any additional information that may be necessary, and how to conduct the actual physical inspection of the micropublication by an inspection of the packaging of the product, inspection by a "light box," and a final inspection on a microviewer.

The librarian and even the technician need not be embarrassed at feeling overwhelmed by this handbook. It could have been entitled "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Micropublications" because its coverage is that complete. However, this is not a criticism but a testimony to the expertise and thoroughness of the author.

Veaner in essence has been writing this booklet for ten years and it is the right book by the right author at the right time. With reports due to be published shortly as a result of OE grants to ARL for studies on the bibliographical control of microforms and on the establishment of a permanent national microform agency, with the Denver Research Institute seeking to establish The Organization for Micro Information (OMI), with the quantity and variety of micropublications proliferating, as best illustrated by the GPO decision to make government documents available to depository libraries in microform, and with libraries and publishers increasingly being driven to micropublishing because of shrinking acquisition budgets and library space, events have conspired to make this LTP publication timely indeed. Those responsible for producing, acquiring, or reviewing micropublications will find this publication indispensable. Every medium- to large-sized library should acquire this essential reference work.—*Robert C. Sullivan, Order Division. Library of Congress.*